

HONORING THE LIFE OF DR.
ELNARDO WEBSTER

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 31, 2022

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. Elnardo Webster after his passing on March 22, 2022. Elnardo was a beloved School Superintendent, devoted husband and father, and a proud member of the West Orange community.

Dr. Webster was born on March 6, 1948, in Jersey City, NJ. He earned a B.S. and M.A. from Saint Peter's University and, in 2000, he received a Doctorate in Educational Leadership from Seton Hall University. While a student, he played a pivotal role on the renowned 1967–68 “Run Baby Run” men's basketball team. Dr. Webster went on to play professional basketball for seven years with the New York Nets, Memphis Pros, Italy, Spain, Switzerland, and Eastern League for the New York Knicks. In 2018, Dr. Webster was named to a list of the top 25 men's college basketball players in New Jersey's history.

Following a distinguished career in education, Dr. Webster retired as superintendent for Roselle Public Schools and became a consultant for the Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Education as a Highly Skilled Professional. Of late, Dr. Webster served as director for Saint Peter's Center for After School and Expanded Learning (C.A.S.E.L.). He was a former council member of the West Orange Township Council and a former commissioner of the Hudson County Freeholders.

Dr. Webster also served as a member of the Board of Trustees at Saint Peter's University, a member of the Trustee Board of the Ethics Committee New Jersey Supreme Court District VI, a member of the Board of Trustees of the Urban League of Hudson County, a member of the King Solomon Masonic Lodge No. 19, and a member of the National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa Alpha Chapter Anthropolos. He will be greatly missed by his wife Sandra Webster, his two sons Elnardo and Damarko Webster, and his entire extended family.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in celebrating the life of Dr. Elnardo Webster.

SAFEGUARDING TOMORROW THROUGH ONGOING RISK MITIGATION TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 30, 2022

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 5673, the Safeguarding Tomorrow through Ongoing Risk Mitigation Technical Corrections Act.

This bill revises provisions related to the hazard mitigation revolving loan fund program, by requiring capitalization grant recipients to supplement these two most recently published editions of relevant building codes, specifications, and standards.

The Safeguarding Tomorrow through Ongoing Risk Mitigation Act authorizes the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to enter into agreements with any state or Indian tribal government to make grants for the establishment of hazard mitigation revolving loan funds.

The funding would enable local governments that carry out projects to reduce disaster risks for homeowners, businesses, non-profit organizations, and communities to decrease the loss of life and property, the cost of insurance claims, and federal disaster payments.

The Infrastructure Act of 2021 provides \$500 million to the STORM Act, or \$100 million per year for five years.

This new FEMA grant program finances water, wastewater, infrastructure, disaster recovery, community, and small business development projects.

This revolving loan fund can be utilized for projects intended to protect against wildfires, earthquakes, flooding, storm surges, chemical spills, seepage resulting from chemical spills and floods, and any other event deemed catastrophic by FEMA.

This legislation makes a huge impact on the nation's efforts to prevent and recover from natural disasters.

My community, the 18th Congressional District of Texas will benefit greatly from this bill. Houston's Hurricane Harvey wreaked \$125 billion in damage to the Houston area.

Houston's Third and Fifth Wards and in surrounding communities of Baytown and Gulfport, took the brunt of flooding damage due to Hurricane Harvey in 2017.

In February 2021, many of these same neighborhoods endured a much higher rate of power outages from Winter Storm Uri.

These low-interest loans will allow for cities and states to repay the loan, with savings from mitigation projects.

It also gives states the flexibility to prepare for oncoming disasters without paying high-interest rates.

They can invest in their communities—cutting red tape and they will no longer have to wait on the federal government.

For my district, and others living on the coast, it is not a matter of “if” a hurricane will strike our coast, it's a matter of “when” it will strike.

I ask my colleagues to join me in voting for H.R. 5673 because hazards are going to happen and we must do everything we can to protect our people.

We need the Safeguarding Tomorrow through Ongoing Risk Mitigation Act.

NEYRELY MUNOZ

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 31, 2022

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Neyrely Munoz for receiving the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award.

Neyrely Munoz is a Freshman at Hofstra University and received this award because their determination and hard work have allowed them to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Neyrely Munoz is exemplary of the type of achieve-

ment that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Neyrely Munoz for winning the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award. I have no doubt they will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of their future accomplishments.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF ALICE BEATTY

HON. J. FRENCH HILL

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 31, 2022

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of World War II veteran Alice Beatty and to honor her service in the Women's Auxiliary Army Corp.

Alice Beatty was born in Conway, Arkansas on August 23, 1921. At the age of 21, Alice joined the Women's Auxiliary Army Corps and landed on the beach at Normandy just weeks after D-Day.

Alice Beatty was awarded the European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal with one bronze star, the World War II Victory Medal, three overseas service bars, and the Women's Army Corps Service Medal in recognition of her service during World War II.

Alice was also the first woman in the state of Arkansas to receive the French Legion of Honor Medal.

Alice was a pioneer of her time, and I am proud to highlight her service to our Nation and honor her memory during Women's History Month.

REMEMBERING BRENDA HARRIS

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 31, 2022

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Brenda Harris and her legacy as an educator and a civil rights champion. Patti and I are deeply saddened by Brenda's passing, and our hearts are with her family during this difficult time.

In 1951, Harris was born in Montgomery, Alabama as the daughter of civil rights activists. After graduating high school, Harris moved to California to study communications and sociology at the University of San Francisco (USF). In 1972, Harris began to immerse herself in the world of education through tutoring at Benjamin Franklin Middle School and counseling through Junior League. She went on to receive a master's degree in administration and her elementary and secondary school teaching credentials. In 1990, Harris' efforts culminated in her appointment to the position of Education Program Consultant by Dr. Shirley Thornton, Deputy Superintendent of Specialized Programs at the California Department of Education.

As the daughter for civil rights activists, Harris was keenly aware of the disadvantages that underprivileged communities faced. While